

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments (12/16/10 Remarks: page 6, line 11 - page 7, line 23) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues (12/16/10 Remarks: page 6, line 11 - page 7, line 8) that amended claims 1 & 15 are allowable because the Faber reference does not teach or suggest the recited feature of characterizing film grain in accordance with the difference between the input image stream and a filtered input image stream.

However, the recitation of this feature introduces a new issue of patentability after Final Rejection, and the amendment reciting this feature has therefore not been entered.

Applicant argues (12/16/10 Remarks: page 7, lines 9-23) that claims 7, 9-10, 14, 21, & 26 are allowable for the same reasons as their respective parent claims 1 & 15.

Applicant's arguments re claims 1 & 15 are addressed above.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning the contents of this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen M. Brinich at 571-272-7430.

Any inquiry relating to the status of this application, entry of papers into this application, or other any inquiries of a general nature concerning application processing should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 Customer Service center at 571-272-2600 or to the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199 or 571-272-1000.

The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays 8:00-5:30, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to contact the examiner and the Customer Service Center are unsuccessful, supervisor Mark Zimmerman can be contacted at 571-272-7653.

Faxes pertaining to this application should be directed to the Tech Center 2600 official fax number, which is 571-273-8300.

Hand-carried correspondence may be delivered to the Customer Service Window, located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

/S. M. B./

Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/Thomas D Lee/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625